



UTILITY WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA

Local 1-2, Affiliated with AFL-CIO

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MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT FOR S3295/A1982

CROHN'S AND COLITIS FAIRNESS ACT

The Members of Local 1-2, NY, Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO fully support Senator's Hannon's Bill S3295/Assemblywoman's Paulin A1982, the "Crohn's and Colitis Fairness Act" because it addresses basic needs of people who otherwise would have no accommodation for their chronic illnesses.

The Bill calls for businesses that have an employee restroom, but no public facility, and more than two employees to allow Crohn's and colitis sufferers in the course of their own duties to use said bathrooms.

This is especially important to many Members of Local 1-2 who work for utility providers, like Con Edison, where their work takes them out on the road with no ready access to restroom facilities. While they are otherwise able to perform their work, times arise when they need access to a bathroom. Businesses which have facilities for their employees should allow access to the person in need, as this Bill would require.

This access would alleviate concerns for Crohn's and colitis sufferers as to their basic health needs without incurring any expense besides common courtesy.

It will be a boon not only to the Brothers and Sisters of Local 1-2 but to workers who, because of their jobs, must be on the road - Postal workers, delivery workers, truck drivers and any other worker whose duties require that they be out and about in their work.

Asking businesses, which are open to the general public but not required to operate public restrooms, to extend common sense and courtesy to the men and women whose work is not in an office is not too much to ask.

Of course, the business can ask for proof of the condition before allowing access as a matter of safety.

These chronic conditions affect the quality of life of each sufferer and it is only right that they have access to facilities to cope with their disease.

Therefore, Local 1-2 unequivocally urges the Legislature to pass this Bill into Law.

James T. Slevin
President

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SUPPORT Memorandum

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Legislative Director

June 5, 2017

ON ASSEMBLY LABOR AGENDA 6/7/17 PROTECT WORKERS AT NUCLEAR POWER FACILITIES

A8173 Titus/ S6127 Murphy

The New York State AFL-CIO, representing 2.5 million union workers and their families as well as our retirees and their families, supports the above-referenced legislation.

This bill amends various sections of the Labor Law to enhance the WARN ACT as it applies to employers operating nuclear power plants in the state. Specially, the bill would require: the operators to provide the Department of Labor with a detailed plan of closure 18 months prior to such closure; one year's notice of employment loss to employees of the plant; and health screenings and retraining programs for the workers.

Developments in the energy sector combined with political and economic pressures on nuclear power plants have created unstable markets and forced uncertainty in many local communities with power plant operations. Recently, all the state's largest operators, including Indian Point in Westchester County, the James A. Fitzpatrick Plant in Oswego County and the Ginna Plant in Wayne County were slated either for closure, sale and/or downsizing because of this instability.

These plants are not only the biggest employers in the local areas but they are a critical contributor to the local tax base, economy and energy infrastructure. The workers, local communities and businesses all deserve a methodical, rational approach to any major closures or downsizings. This bill will help smooth the impact on local communities as well as help workers find new employment and prepare themselves and their families for the impact of job loss.

Therefore, this Federation urges this bill be passed.

For further information, contact the Legislative Department at 518-436-8516.